

Council Supplementary Agenda

Place

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Wellington Street, Woolwich SE18 6PW

Date

Thursday, 24 February 2022

Time

7:00 PM

This meeting is open to the press and public and they are entitled to take photographs, film or record the proceedings.

Councillors**Agenda**

- 8 **Public Questions**
Questions and Answers
- 9 **Members Questions**
Questions and Answers
- 12 **Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy & 2022-23 Budget and Rent Setting**
Addendum
- 14 **Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-23**
Appendix C
- 15 **Budget and Council Tax Setting 2022-23**
Appendix D

Members are reminded that officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and they are welcome to raise questions in advance with the appropriate officer. This does not prevent further questioning at the meeting.

If you require further information about this meeting please contact the Committee Services Officer:
Daniel Wilkinson
Telephone: 020 8921 5102
Email: committees@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

16 **Motion “School standards in Greenwich”**
Proposed amendment

Date of Issue Thursday, 24 February 2022

Debbie Warren
Chief Executive

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COUNCIL

24 FEBRUARY 2022

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

I **Question from Leanne Gellel, SE18, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport**

I previously asked [November 2021] to what extent the use of cycles had increased after the introduction of new cycle lanes in Charlton and Woolwich. The Cabinet Member stated that cycle use had increased 80% however she did not provide any details on the use of cycles prior to the new lanes introduction.

My question is what was the rate of cycle use prior to the introduction of these lanes, so that I can get some idea of the extent of cycle use overall as an 80% increase is only significant in absolute terms if the prior number was already significant?

Reply -

I thank Leanne Gellel for her question.

We previously stated that initial monitoring shows that between July and October, on average, 30-40 cyclists were using the route each hour (between 7am and 7pm), with up to 80 per hour at the busiest time.

Data from September and October 2016, before the route was introduced, shows approximately 960 cyclists using the route between 6am and 10pm. After the route was delivered counts of up to 1400 a day (6am – 10pm) were recorded in 2021 on Trafalgar Road. Cycling numbers change with seasonality and cycle counts averaged at 290 during December 2021 (6am-10pm) although this would have been affected by the work from home order and related omicron restrictions

An 80% increase in use since the route was introduced was not mentioned in this response and is not a figure we recognise.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

2 Question from Matt Browne, SE10, to Councillor Miranda Williams, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult's Social Care

Does the Royal Borough of Greenwich accept a responsibility for the health of Greenwich residents?

Reply -

I thank Matt Browne for his question.

All local authorities have a responsibility for improving and protecting the health and wellbeing of residents. We do this through the provision of services for people who need care and support; through working closely in partnership with the NHS and other agencies to ensure that residents have good access to high quality health and care services to meet their needs; and through the wider roles we have that impact on health, such as housing, environment, education, and community safety.

Councils are also responsible for planning and commissioning public health services and activities, to prevent avoidable ill health and premature death. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the council has worked relentlessly to keep residents safe from the direct risks to health posed by the virus and from the indirect risks, caused by shielding, social isolation and the disruption to the economy, education, and livelihoods. The pandemic has highlighted the impact of social and economic inequalities on health risks and outcomes, with some groups in our populations being harder hit by COVID-19 than others. We are committed to working with our partners to address the underlying causes of health inequalities and to support all of our residents to thrive.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

3 Question from Simon Pirani, SE18, to Councillor Linda Perks, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

I ask whichever Cabinet Member is responsible for legal matters, about the treatment of the recommendations of the Regeneration, Transport and Culture Scrutiny Panel (9 December), that the full Council call on the Mayor of London to pause and review the Silvertown tunnel project. At the Overview & Scrutiny committee meeting of the council on 16 February, the Chair, Councillor Lloyd, said, and stressed repeatedly, that he had received legal advice that, should the recommendations be endorsed and passed on to the full council, they would end up in a “constitutional dead end”. This advice was not available in the committee agenda. It had been given to Councillor Lloyd verbally, by two senior council legal officers. On the face of it, this legal advice appears to constitute a serious obstruction to democracy and the proper working of the council. As reported by Councillor Lloyd, it implies that the council, by discussing a scrutiny panel decision on a matter of vital public interest, the Silvertown tunnel project, would somehow fall outside the constitution.

In view of the implied danger to democracy, and in order to reassure the public that the council’s democratic functioning has not been impaired, will the Cabinet Member responsible for legal matters require that this legal advice is set down in writing and published in the shortest possible time? How quickly could this be done?

Reply –

I thank Simon Pirani for his question.

Specialist Counsel’s detailed legal advice is referred to in paragraph 6 of the report and was published in full in Appendix A. The Director of Legal & HR’s detailed legal and constitutional advice is set out at paragraph 7 of the report. There is nothing further to be published.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

4 Question from Maria Freeman, SE18, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment Sustainability and Transport

In [Public Questions for January 2022](#) residents asked about the impact of the introduction of LED lighting on our wildlife and the options for late night dimming. Residents in Plumstead reported concerns in January on “Plumstead People” Facebook Group, following the installation of new lighting. While the reduction in energy costs and CO2 consumption with the changeover is welcomed, has a robust environmental impact assessment been carried out in order to assess the impact on wildlife such as foxes, bats, birds and insects, given that there are reports of changing behaviours, and will you publish this? For example, did you review the recent research carried out by the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology [LED streetlights reduce insect populations by 50% | UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology \(ceh.ac.uk\)](#) [Street lighting has detrimental impacts on local insect populations \(science.org\)](#) Can you confirm that the recommended lumen level in operation in the borough is still higher than the recommended levels, even after the current “dimming” has been implemented?

5 Question from Deborah O'Boyle, SE18, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport

Further to the answers provided by the Cabinet Member at the last Full Council meeting, relating to the installation of LED street lighting, it would appear:

- ILP recommends 3000 Kelvin warm white, as opposed to 4000 Kelvin neutral white and dimming TO 25% (rather than BY 30%) in areas frequented by bats;
- the contrast between those parts of the road directly illuminated by 4000 K neutral white and those parts not illuminated is such that the non-illuminated sections appear, to the human eye, as very dark (eg. pavements) or even pitch-black (eg. Winn’s Common) – exacerbated by many poorly-aligned LEDs and huge gaps between lampposts in some roads raising concerns relating to safety, both real and perceived;

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- 3000 K warm white can achieve the same level of illumination as 4000 neutral white;
- many countries are expected to install 2700 K as standard, with 2300 K in bat areas.

What is the expected cost for the fitting of 4000 K neutral white LEDs, realignment, installation of infill lampposts, fitting of shades etc. throughout the borough?

Combined Reply -

I thank Maria Freeman and Deborah O'Boyle for their questions.

As previously mentioned at the last meeting, safety for people, especially women, is also a very important factor in this.

I have already committed to further dimming and I am seeking further consultation from The Bat Conservation Society and we are in contact with the GWAG – Greenwich Wildlife Advisory Group.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

6 Question from Victoria Rance, SE18, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport

As the council literature on carbon reduction states ‘Transport generated 31% of the borough’s total emissions in 2019. Almost all these transport emissions (95%) come from vehicles on our roads such as cars, vans and trucks.’

The council’s zero carbon target for 2030 aims to reduce car use in the borough by 45% with a 10% reduction in van and truck use. Are there any interim targets? Is new road building consistent with these aims?

Reply –

I thank Victoria Rance for her question.

The Carbon Neutral Plan does not set interim targets but it does set out clearly how we will monitor progress towards our 2030 target (see Annex 5 of the Plan).

Areas for mixed use development such as the Charlton Riverside include plans for new roads for buses and cyclists and this would be consistent with our Carbon Neutral Plan targets.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

7. Question from Kate Middleton, SE10, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment Sustainability and Transport

What are the council doing to mitigate the massive detrimental impact of the Silvertown tunnel construction site and future operation of the tunnel that is designed to take massive container HGVs too large for Blackwall tunnel ,on the health of residents and children who attend schools and nurseries on Greenwich peninsula in the area described by AM Len Duvall as the mouth of the tunnel zone? So far the only published local mitigation seems to be for noise screening at Sieberts road some distance from the site. Please detail the mitigations that have been negotiated by Royal Borough of Greenwich - including any protection of children from HGV and construction operations given that Riverlinx have not been admitted to considerate contractor scheme and are not using FORS gold contractors for Earth moving from the Greenwich site - every vehicle accessing the site will be close passing St Mary Magdalene schools and nursery play areas and Millennium primary and nursery . given that TfL has not done air quality modelling, including particulate pollutants (notably pm2.5s) to assess the impact of the Silvertown tunnel on these Greenwich children what is RB Greenwich doing to protect the health of these children. Have you considered installing air purification and filtration systems in these schools as some parents are now requesting?

Reply -

I thank Kate Middleton for her question.

A number of actions are underway to ensure there is sufficient mitigation from any impacts of construction of the Silvertown Tunnel.

Riverlinx has placed counters on key roads near to both schools to count the vehicles and types of vehicles passing the school. They intend to have the analysis ready for the next Riverlinx Community Liaison Group meeting early next month.

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There is a Breathe London air quality sensor at the edge of the playground of Mary Magdalene School which is measuring PM2.5 and Nitrogen Dioxide. This has been in place since June 2021. Initial snapshot results appear to be in the 'low' range according to the government's 'Daily Air Quality Index' for Nitrogen Dioxide and PM2.5 particles. This data is freely available online.

There are also a number of diffusion tubes in the area and this data will be discussed at future Community Liaison Group meetings.

We are planning a site visit to both schools to look at what further measures can be put in place if necessary.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

**8 Question from Fiona Moore, SE3, to Councillor Jackie Smith,
Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement**

How many Penalty Charge Notices has the Council issued for contraventions of the HGV weight limit in Romney Road in the last year?

Reply –

I thank Fiona Moore for her question.

In the 12-month period 01/02/2021 – 31/01/2022, 4,050 PCNs were issued at Romney Road to HGVs for contravening the Weight Limit.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

9 Question from Stewart Christie, SE18, to Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Good Growth

I welcome the recent news that Plumstead Power Station will be brought back into use ahead of schedule.

How much has been spent on the original "business, event and workspace" proposal for Plumstead Power Station with Smart Mobility Living Lab, Architecture00, Studio Weave, LDA Design, Donald Insall Associates, make:good and others, including internal Council resources and officer time? Additionally, what is the breakdown for the source of these funds?

Reply –

I thank Stewart Christie for his question.

The Council submitted a bid to the GLA Good Growth Fund and successfully secured £2.51m of regeneration funding to be spent in Plumstead alongside RB Greenwich match funding of £2.51m. This was approved by Cabinet in March 2018.

This funding included an allocation of monies to support the regeneration of Plumstead Power Station. The Council appointed Architecture00 to lead a team of experts including Studio Weave, LDA Design, Donald Insall Associates and make:good to explore the best way to bring Plumstead Power Station back into use. Smart Mobility Living Ltd was not part of this process.

The Council undertook a number of structural and related surveys at the Power Station, being a grade II listed heritage building, which helped form part of the strategy developed up to RIBA Stage 2 to create a business, event and workspace hub. This strategy and underlying building information allowed the production of marketing information which was sent out to potential workspace providers and local businesses. This work showed that Mo-SyS had a keen interest in the Power Station.

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The cost of this initial work totalled £382,020 - all met from the Good Growth Fund, excluding internal officer time, which isn't accounted for at a project level. This cost should be seen in the context of securing around £4.5 million investment in an important Heritage Asset and ensuring that it has a real long-term use. Mo-Sys' proposals look to bring around 4,600SqM of space back into use – as well as upgrading external areas.

Critically, the project will help secure high-skill creative jobs in our Borough for many years to come.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

I Question from Councillor Nigel Fletcher, to Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Good Growth

Can the Cabinet Member for Regeneration give an update on plans for the future of the Borough Hall in Greenwich?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Nigel Fletcher for his question.

Submissions have been received from interested parties following the recent marketing of the Borough Halls. A decision is not anticipated until late Spring / early Summer which will allow time for consideration of these submissions.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

2 Question from Councillor Nigel Fletcher, to Councillor Danny Thorpe, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader of the Council continue to support the current plans for the Silvertown Tunnel, and what representations he has himself made to TfL on the subject?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Nigel Fletcher for his question.

The project dates back twenty years. There was an initial consultation in 2006 under the then Mayor Ken Livingstone. In 2012 London Mayor Boris Johnson told the London Assembly that "It is because we are ambitious for London that we are pushing ahead with new vehicular river crossings such as a tunnel at Silvertown."

Tory Transport Secretary Chris Grayling approved the project in 2018 and the current London Mayor obviously has also backed it.

I did write to the current Mayor Sadiq Khan last year asking him to consider pausing the project for review and he said that this was not possible.

My view of this project is that construction is already underway according to decisions taken by others in both the Labour and Conservative Parties in higher positions than me, a long time ago.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

3 Question from Councillor Nigel Fletcher, to Councillor Adel Khaireh, Cabinet Member for Culture and Communities

Can the Cabinet Member reassure residents that Eltham Lights Up, with the usual lantern parade and evening entertainment on Eltham High Street, will take place next Christmas?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Nigel Fletcher for his question.

With the up-coming election due in May, any decisions regarding events in December will be for the new administration to make. Additionally, until budgets are set, the events schedule for 2022/23 cannot be confirmed. Our events programme aims to be as inclusive and accessible as possible so that all our residents are able to celebrate with their friends and neighbours in the borough, this will remain a priority in any activities I am involved with in the future.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

4 Question from Councillor Charlie Davis, to Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Good Growth

Can the Cabinet Member confirm what facility will be offered to community groups who currently use the AstroTurf at OneSpace?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Charlie Davis for his question.

There is already a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Kidbrooke Village (Cator Park North), which is a polymeric surface composed of rubber granules bound with polyurethane, and suitable for all year-round use.

The MUGA is fully floodlit and provides a large space for tennis, netball, basketball and 5-a-side football.

The MUGA is bookable through TwistFizz CIC
<https://www.twistfizz.co.uk/locations/>.

The courts and pitches are offered for pay & play and can be booked on-line up to 7 days in advance via TwistFizz CIC. The MUGA will hosts some free supervised sessions for local young people to access to site. The space can also be hired locally by community groups to facilitate a range of sporting activities.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

5 Question from Councillor Charlie Davis, to Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Good Growth

Will the Cabinet Member confirm whether the Council will consider including a fit for purpose community facility in proposals for the former Thomas Tallis site to replace facilities due to be lost at OneSpace?

Reply –

I thank Councillor Charlie Davis for his question.

You will already be aware that it is the Royal Borough of Greenwich's overarching objective to create a sustainable, thriving hub for community activity in a new facility in Peglar Square, Kidbrooke Village. This facility is currently being fitted out and a procurement exercise is underway to select an operator for this space. It is anticipated that the new facility will be open by the Summer 2022. The Trustees of One Space have been offered the opportunity to continue to use the existing community centre until June 2022.

The new Hub will comprise an integrated community and health centre, including the local GP Practice currently based on Elford Close. There will be dedicated community space including a large hall and rooms of various sizes for community activity, much in the same way that One Space currently operates.

The new hub will support both the existing and new local community and help residents access a range of services and engagement opportunities as part of the major regeneration of the area. To ensure continuity of service provision during the development and construction of the permanent Community Hub in Kidbrooke, the former Ferrier Youth Club building was made available to One Space on a temporary basis in 2012, as the land would not be required for development for some time.

The proposed new Greenwich Builds development at the former Thomas Tallis also contains facilities for community use, and the current programme anticipates this space being available in 2025/26.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

The Council is confident that residents of Kidbrooke Village and the surrounding areas will welcome the facilities available in the new Community Hub, and once a Community Centre operator has been selected that organisation will take up local engagement with residents.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

6 Question from Councillor Charlie Davis, to Councillor Danny Thorpe, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader confirm whether he has had any correspondence with Lewisham Council since he took the decision to cancel the proposed Horn Park LTN to discuss any potential solutions to the issue of displaced traffic from Lewisham's Lee LTN?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Charlie Davis for his question.

The report was clear that we will continue monitoring traffic levels. This will allow us to assess the impact of external changes on streets in the area, in particular, the effect of changes to the road network in neighbouring areas (including in the London Borough of Lewisham), and changes to travel patterns due to the Pandemic and subsequent recovery.

We will continue contact with the London Borough of Lewisham and will discuss any such changes in traffic patterns that may emerge with them as appropriate.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

7 Question from Councillor Charlie Davis, to Councillor Jackie Smith, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement

Can the Cabinet Member confirm the cost of installing and removing the enforcement cameras on Rochester Way by the junction with Crookston Road? Additionally, can the Cabinet Member confirm the amount of revenue generated by this camera prior to it being removed?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Charlie Davis for his question.

1. The cost of installation was £928.50
2. the cost of removal was £1,000 (which included a return to factory, inspection and service)
3. Revenue from PCNs issued at this location up to and including 31st January 2022 is £6,045

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

8 Question from Councillor Charlie Davis, to Councillor Mariam Lolavar, Cabinet Member for Business Economic Growth

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the allocation of funding from the Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant to local businesses within the Borough?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Charlie Davis for his question.

The Royal Borough has to date received funding of £1,356,039 from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy total in respect of the Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant Scheme.

As of 21st February, £1,183,373 in grants has been awarded representing 300 individual payments.

The scheme closes for applications on Monday 28th February 2022 and all grant payments must be paid by the Royal Borough by 31st March 2022

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

9 Question from Councillor Charlie Davis, to Councillor Mariam Lolavar, Cabinet Member for Business Economic Growth

Can the Cabinet Member confirm the breakdown by ward of where businesses who received funding from each of the Top-up Additional Restriction Grant schemes are based?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Charlie Davis for his question.

Royal Borough of Greenwich has received 3 separate allocations of ARG Top Up between the period 5 January 2021 to 30 December 2021 of £2,557,804, £1,820,843 and £436,447 respectively.

As of 11 February 2022, a total value of £3,580,424 of grant payments had been awarded against a total grant allocation of £4,815,094, with 731 individual grant payments being made. Applications under the ARG schemes are currently being processed and all the remaining grant funding will be awarded by the 31 March 2022.

The table below provides a snapshot of the distribution of grant payments made by ward.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Ward	Number of Grants Paid
Abbey Wood	17
Blackheath Westcombe	21
Charlton	26
Coldharbour and New Eltham	22
Eltham North	49
Eltham South	33
Eltham West	13
Glyndon	13
Greenwich West	130
Kidbrooke with Hornfair	6
Middle Park and Sutcliffe	5
Peninsula	67
Plumstead	49
Shooters Hill	14
Thamesmead Moorings	43
Woolwich Common	38
Woolwich Riverside	185
TOTAL	731

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

10 Question from Councillor Geoffrey Brighty, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport

Recommendations have now been made following the recent CPZ review consultation for the Westcombe area. Can the Cabinet Member provide an up-date on when these will be progressed ?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Geoffrey Brighty for his question.

The recommendations following the consultation will need to be formally reported. If changes to streets are required, the necessary Traffic Management Order will be advertised. Officers have informed me that they will seek permission to this in March 2022.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

11 Question from Councillor Geoffrey Brighty, to Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Good Growth

In 2019 I arranged a meeting between Officers and representatives of the Westcombe Society to discuss whether an Article 4 directive would be an option in respect of the Westcombe Park Conservation Area. Various reasons have been given but three years on there appears to have been no progress in recommending whether to move to a public consultation. Could the Cabinet Member advise when Officers might be able to report back on this ?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Geoffrey Brighty for his question.

Going forward the main priority for the Policy Team is the progression of the new local plan. The current local plan is 7 years old and central government stipulates that local authorities must have a local plan that is less than 5 years old. Previous heritage policy focus and priorities have been the delivery of an expanded conservation area in Woolwich and two new conservation areas in Charlton Riverside. Following these designations the priority is the delivery of conservation area appraisals and management strategies (CAMS) for these conservation areas. Heritage policy work will focus on the local plan as a priority.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

12 Question from Councillor Pat Greenwell, to Councillor Danny Thorpe, Leader of the Council

Please can we have an update on the future of the former Wide Horizons site on Bexley Road?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Pat Greenwell for her question.

As explained previously, the Council is considering options to use the developed part of the site for SEND education purposes with the woodland retained for community use. This remains the current strategy and once developed further the proposal will be subject of a future report for consideration by Members. Timescales have not been firmed up yet, but it is likely that the report for the initial decision regarding the likely proposal and investment required will be brought forward in the second half of this calendar year.

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24 FEBRUARY 2022

MEMBERS QUESTIONS

13 Question from Councillor Pat Greenwell, to Councillor Anthony Okereke, Cabinet Member for Housing

How often are our tenancy blocks checked for issues such as fly tipping and problems with lighting?

Reply -

I thank Cllr Greenwell for her question.

The vast majority of our blocks are checked daily (Mon-Fri) for fly-tips, fire hazards, and other communal safety issues. There are a few small satellite blocks that are checked 3 times per week. We also have a skeleton team working Saturday and Sunday to check for fly-tips and fire hazards on our larger estates and tower blocks.

In addition to our checks, we offer a free bulky item removal service for tenants within estate blocks.

With regards to light checks, the caretakers undertake these on a weekly basis. The caretakers will change any blown bulbs found during the time of inspection. All faulty fittings are reported to the Repairs and Investment team.

The Caretaking Team also respond to any resident requests relating to fly-tipping and blown bulbs between our scheduled checks.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

14 Question from Councillor Pat Greenwell, to Councillor Mariam Lolavar, Cabinet Member for Business Economic Growth

It is refreshing to know that the 'Love your High Street' campaign has been launched in Eltham. We have been told that leaflets are to be distributed to local shops and businesses to invite them to become involved. Can we be assured that these premises will be visited in person, discussions and ideas shared. Engagement is vital?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Pat Greenwell for her question.

Royal Greenwich are pleased to have launched the **Love Your High Street** campaign which aims to get businesses on board, for the benefit of the town centre, maintaining its cleanliness and appeal.

Business engagement, forms a key part of this work and council officers will be visiting Eltham town centre businesses the week commencing 7th March 2022 to talk about the campaign, encourage sign-ups and will distribute "Love your High Street" window stickers for those that do. Businesses in this way, will be able to show their support, pride of place and commitment to helping to improve the environment, making it even more attractive to shoppers and visitors.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

15 Question from Councillor Spencer Drury, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment Sustainability and Transport

I note Cllr Davis has already asked a question about the removal of enforcement cameras on the Rochester Way only a few days after the last Council meeting where I raised the issue of speeding on the same road with the Cabinet Member. What progress has the Cabinet Member made in dealing with the issue of speeding on the Rochester Way since the last meeting of Full Council?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Spencer Drury for his question.

The camera referred to by Cllr Davis is not a speed camera. Greenwich Council has never had a speed camera at this location and the enforcement of speed limits within the borough is the remit of the Metropolitan Police and Transport for London, not the council. The council does not have any speed enforcement powers.

That said, I can advise that we have raised this location with the police and have requested that Rochester Way be included in the Metropolitan Police Service Community Roadwatch programme

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24 FEBRUARY 2022

MEMBERS QUESTIONS

16 Question from Councillor Spencer Drury, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport

At the last meeting of Full Council I raised the problems that the built out pavement on Westmount Road posed for cyclists. The Cabinet Member indicated she was aware of the issue and looking into it. Can I ask what progress she has made and what changes will be made reflecting the concerns raised by cyclists?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Spencer Drury for his question.

Since the last Council meeting, I have spoken to cyclists, and officers and I am of the view that some amendments might need to be made.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

17 Question from Councillor Spencer Drury, to Councillor Mariam Lolavar, Cabinet Member for Business Economic Growth

At the last meeting of Full Council the Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Growth offered me a briefing note on the Additional Restrictions Grant but unfortunately I do not seem to have received it. Is it possible for her to arrange for it to be sent to me?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Spencer Drury for his question.

A briefing has been prepared and will be sent

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24 FEBRUARY 2022

MEMBERS QUESTIONS

18 Question from Councillor Spencer Drury, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport

At the November meeting of Full Council, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport, in response to a question on the Eltham Controlled Parking Zone informed me that "A final report on the outcome of the consultation is currently being finalised for consideration by me". The subsequent follow up was a little confused with a suggestion that responses were in the public domain, which I do not believe is the case. Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the proposals for the Eltham CPZ and when they are likely to be placed in the public domain?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Spencer Drury for his question.

The consultation results from the scheme have not yet been published and are not in the public domain. The report will outline the background to the parking scheme, the various consultations that have been undertaken over the years and the recent feedback from the statutory consultation.

This report will be published shortly and all directly affected residents and businesses will be notified of the outcome.

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MEMBERS QUESTIONS

19 Question from Councillor Spencer Drury, to Councillor Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Good Growth

I note that Manston Properties Limited have applied for prior approval to demolish the Eltham Police Station building. Can the Cabinet Member confirm what contact they have had with any relevant authority responsible for selling the building or with Manston Properties Limited about the future of the former Eltham Police Station? What vision does the Council have for the use of this building or the space it now occupies in the future?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Spencer Drury for his question.

The Council does not own the building and there has been no contact with the owners of the property in respect of their intention to either sell the building or their future intentions for the building or site. The Council is not aware of the owner's vision for the use of the building and would assess any future planning application on its planning merits at the point of submission or pre-application engagement. Planning Services has received a prior approval application for the demolition of Eltham Police Station Building (ref 22/0376/D1) and has until 2nd March 2022 to determine to prior application.

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20 Question from Councillor Matt Hartley, to Councillor Sarah Merrill, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Transport

It is good to see that along with most other London Boroughs, there will be no charges imposed by RBG for residents who apply for road closures to host street parties on the Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend (June 4th and 5th) as long as applications are received by 23rd March. How many applications have been received for Platinum Jubilee Street Parties in the borough so far?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Matt Hartley for his question.

We have received 20 applications to date and they quite widely spread throughout the borough.

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21 Question from Councillor Matt Hartley, to Councillor Miranda Williams, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult's Social Care

In September 2021 Full Council unanimously passed a motion stating that:

“This Council believes that greater access to AEDs/PADs will save lives in the Royal Borough, and resolves to:

- work with local sporting and health organisations including Charlton Athletic to encourage greater provision of defibrillators at sports clubs and community centres.
- contact voluntary organisations, social clubs and hospitality venues to encourage them to sponsor the provision of defibrillators in public places.
- conduct an audit to establish the locations of existing defibrillators and identify public places where additional installations can be made, including outside Council buildings. “

Can the Cabinet Member please provide an update on the 3 actions outlined above? Has an audit to establish existing and potential defibrillator installations been started, and what engagement with local organisations by RBG on this issue since the motion was passed in September 2021?

Reply -

I thank Councillor Matt Hartley for his question.

There is clear evidence that following cardiac arrest the prompt use of an automated defibrillator can improve survival rates to in excess of 50%. The Council recognises that for defibrillators to be effective, ambulance services need to know their location and they need to be easily accessible, this can be via a public access defibrillator or one located in a publicly accessible building.

We looked into the current position regarding any list or map of devices within the borough; no organisation has been identified which holds such a definitive list. The London Ambulance Service (LAS) does have a list, but it is out-dated and incomplete. Therefore, we reviewed it on the basis that it could form a baseline for the development of a new accurate list and interactive map. There is also a map of sites, including within the borough

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on the 'Heartsafe' website; an organisation which makes and sells devices. Again, this is incomplete and not up-to-date. However, together with the LAS data, these two sources have provided a useful starting point.

One national development which should assist with the need for more up-to-date and accurate data about the provision of these devices is under development. 'The Circuit' is a National Defibrillator Network which is attempting to map all defibrillators across the UK. It is planned that it will connect them directly and automatically to ambulance services. Its primary aim is to locate and register the UK's estimated 100,000 defibrillators, so that ambulance services can direct bystanders to their nearest defibrillator and increase a person's chances of survival. In the future, 'The Circuit' will be able to analyse location data and identify where more defibrillators are needed, providing a valuable source of intelligence about need.

We contacted every organisation on the LAS list and asked 3 questions:

1. Can you confirm that you have a defibrillator?
2. Can you confirm that it is publicly accessible, at least during your hours of business or when the building is open?
3. Is it registered with the British Heart Foundation/London Ambulance 'Circuit' Scheme which is the national network for defibrillators. See link for more information <https://www.thecircuit.uk/>

We had confirmation of 37 locations with a defibrillator and used this information to form a baseline list, which has been sent to the 'The Circuit' asking them to compare their information on the locations of defibrillators in the borough to see if they reconcile and to inform us of any additional locations they are aware of.

We have been unable to find a nationally agreed evidence base indicating the most effective locations for defibrillators. However, the Resuscitation Council suggests that they should be located in areas where Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrests (OHCA) have occurred in the last 3-5 years, places where physical activity takes place, such as gyms and leisure centres, and areas where large numbers of people tend to congregate such as transport hubs, busy shopping areas, sports venues etc.

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Recent research has shown that the choice of where to install defibrillators has been driven mainly by local ad-hoc initiatives rather than a more strategic approach. There is a risk, therefore, that publicly accessible defibrillators may be placed in more affluent areas with lower OHCA incidence.

Utilising the baseline list, taking account of the Resuscitation Council criteria and recent research we are planning to take the following approach:-

- Continue to work with the DRES Business Support Team to:
 - Explore the possibility of those businesses located in areas without a defibrillator sponsoring additional defibrillators.
 - Encourage all businesses with a defibrillator to register with 'The Circuit'
- Work with DRES and the Council's Communications Team to produce an accurate interactive map of the location of defibrillators that can be included, with information and publicity material on 'The Circuit', on the Council's website
- Continue to work with TFL to integrate their information into the Council's local map and criteria
- Develop local criteria to prioritise the location of new defibrillators or making existing ones more publicly accessible
- Work with local organisations, including Charlton Athletic to encourage greater provision of defibrillators including sponsorship opportunities
- Explore the possibility of commissioning more Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training for Council staff in Community and Children's Centres and partner organisations.

Addendum to Item 12

Summary of discussions with Tenants (see paragraph 8.1 of the Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy & 2022/23 Budget and Rent Setting report)

While the Council are not under a duty to consult with tenants on matters relating to rents and the proposed rent increase, two consultation events were held and approximately 944 residents were invited from our YourVIEW database. YourVIEW is our engagement tool for council tenants and leaseholders within the borough to work with us to shape the housing services we provide. We used a combination of methods to target residents which included text messages, phone calls and emails.

The first event was an informal drop-in session held at Greenwich Town Hall in the afternoon of 10th February. This saw 5 tenants attend and involved a presentation from the AD of Housing to tenants in attendance, along with opportunities for questions and answers with other staff members.

The second (online) event was the Boroughwide Tenants Convention held on the evening of 15th February via Zoom, with 12 residents attending. This again involved a presentation from the AD of Housing about the rationale for the proposed increase, how this would support the Council's strategic priorities and its investment in homes and services, as well as how we are proposing to support tenants in difficulties – not only with the proposed increase, but also more widely due to wider cost of living pressures on household budgets. This was followed by a question and answer session involving other staff members. 3 Zoom polls were conducted on the night, which provided us with the following feedback:

- POLL 1: It was asked the reasons behind the proposed rent increase were understood. 10 tenants voted, with 90% answering YES and 10% NO.
- POLL 2: It was asked whether it was clear about how we use the money we collect from rent. 10 tenants voted, with 80% answering YES and 20% NO.
- POLL 3: It was asked if we were offering sufficient advice and support for residents with paying their rent and other bills. 10 tenants voted, with 70% answering YES, 10% NO, and 20% answering partially.

A number of actions were captured at both meetings, and the Housing team will work with Finance colleagues to agree a tenant consultation timetable for the 2023/24 review in early Autumn so we can work on engaging with a wider audience.”

Overview and Scrutiny Committee 16 February 2022

The comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting of 16 February 2022 to the Cabinet are as follows:

Recommendation – The Council should explore ways of accelerating the CIL review process and maintain its focus on maximising CIL collections throughout the course of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, taking into account inflationary pressures.

Cabinet 17 February 2022

Cabinet noted the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources advised Cabinet that a CIL review was to be undertaken but that it could take up to 18 months, and that an indexing charge was applied to developments that were commenced which increased revenue.

Cabinet recommended the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2025/26 to Council for approval.

APPENDIX D

Overview and Scrutiny Committee 16 February 2022

The comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting of 16 February 2022 to the Cabinet are as follows:

No comments

Cabinet 17 February 2022

No comments. Cabinet recommended that Council agree the budget and Council Tax setting.

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Proposed Amendment to Item 16 Motion “School standards in Greenwich”

Delete everything after “Council notes ...” and **replace** with:

“...that schools staff in the Royal Borough of Greenwich have gone above and beyond in their service to the community during the pandemic. They remained open for pupils who needed to be at school and provided remote learning for others.

Council notes that this commitment to public service exists across all schools in Royal Greenwich, regardless of their structure or status. Our schools have a strong focus on standards of teaching, learning and the results that pupils can achieve. The government’s ongoing commitment to imposing changes of structure onto schools is essentially an ideological project which distracts from the work needed.

Council is committed to working with all schools to put the needs of pupils first and deliver the very best education possible.”

If agreed the motion would read:

Council notes that schools staff in the Royal Borough of Greenwich have gone above and beyond in their service to the community during the pandemic. They remained open for pupils who needed to be at school and provided remote learning for others.

Council notes that this commitment to public service exists across all schools in Royal Greenwich, regardless of their structure or status. Our schools have a strong focus on standards of teaching, learning and the results that pupils can achieve. The government’s ongoing commitment to imposing changes of structure onto schools is essentially an ideological project which distracts from the work needed.

Council is committed to working with all schools to put the needs of pupils first and deliver the very best education possible.

